

Commander, 20th Support Command (CBRNE) Promoted To Brigadier General



By Barry Napp

The commander of 20th Support Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high-yield Explosives or CBRNE), one of the Army's newest and most unique command and control headquarters elements, was promoted by Commanding General Dan K. McNeill, U.S. Army Forces Command.

Brig. Gen. Walter L. Davis is the first commander of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE). Activated last October at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, the new command is a U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) major subordinate command and brings together command and control of the Army's most specialized weapons of mass destruction operational assets. This new organization provides a single point of contact within the Army for the Department of Defense to call when a coordinated response to the threat or use of WMD is needed anywhere in the world.

"We are a changing Army and must remain flexible as we're at war," said McNeill. Walt Davis is a special person with demonstrated action leadership who will help to make this Army great during this change, not only today, but tomorrow as well."

Present subordinate units include 22d Chemical Battalion (formerly Technical Escort Unit) and 52d Ordnance Group (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), but future growth of the command will include activation of an additional explosive ordnance disposal group with three subordinate battalions, chemical brigade headquarters with an additional chemical battalion and an Analytical and Remediation Directorate. The Army Reserve Unit – Consequence Management is also under operational control of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE).

"This promotion is a special event for both me and my family. They have given me unwavering support and encouragement throughout my entire career," said Davis. "For sure, I have served with the Nation's finest soldiers, NCOs and officers; it is they that have directly impacted on any successes I may have had in the past, or will experience in the future. It is simply a privilege to continue to serve our nation during this critical time of war. "

The command is also responsible for managing DoD technical support to consequence management operations and provides CBRNE technical advice and subject matter expertise. The

organization can mitigate hazards resulting from an incident involving the nation's chemical warfare stockpile; recovery and disposal of legacy chemical and biological munitions and materials from formerly used defense sites (FUDS); conduct technical escort of chemical surety materiel in support of the management of chemical stockpile and chemical defense research and development. The

unique command has technical expertise to conduct sensitive site exploitation, disablement, disposition, demilitarization and consequence management operations as well as support U.S. Secret Service and Department of State operations protecting the president and other designated very important persons.

"When fully operational, this Headquarters will command and control existing and future programmed CBRNE response assets that can simultaneously respond to multiple incidents in support of combatant commanders and the joint team both at home and around the world," said Davis. "I'm excited and proud to be a member of this team of professionals."

Davis is a distinguished military graduate from the College of William and Mary where he was commissioned a regular Army officer in 1979. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education and a Master's Degree in National Resource Strategy. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

His last assignment was Chief of Readiness Division, Deputy Directorate for Global Operations, Operations Directorate (J-3), Joint Staff, the Pentagon.

*For further information, contact Barry Napp
U.S. Army 20th Support Command
5183 Blackhawk Road
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5424
email: barry.napp@us.army.mil*

